

# 1 NAME

CARR-237

HISTORIC

Raincliffe (?)

AND/OR COMMON

Raincliffe Venture Manor

# 2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Raincliffe Road at Md. 32

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Sykesville

VICINITY OF

STATE

COUNTY

Maryland

Carroll

# 3 CLASSIFICATION

## CATEGORY

DISTRICT

BUILDING(S)

STRUCTURE

SITE

OBJECT

## OWNERSHIP

PUBLIC

PRIVATE

BOTH

## PUBLIC ACQUISITION

IN PROCESS

BEING CONSIDERED

## STATUS

OCCUPIED

UNOCCUPIED

WORK IN PROGRESS

## ACCESSIBLE

YES: RESTRICTED

YES: UNRESTRICTED

NO

## PRESENT USE

AGRICULTURE

COMMERCIAL

EDUCATIONAL

ENTERTAINMENT

GOVERNMENT

INDUSTRIAL

MILITARY

MUSEUM

PARK

PRIVATE RESIDENCE

RELIGIOUS

SCIENTIFIC

TRANSPORTATION

OTHER

# 4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Maryland Department of Natural Resources

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

Taylor Avenue

CITY, TOWN

STATE, zip code

Annapolis

VICINITY OF

Maryland 21401

# 5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Carroll County Court House

STREET & NUMBER

Liber #:

Folio #:

CITY, TOWN

Westminster

STATE

Maryland

# 6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

CARR-237

**CONDITION**

☐ EXCELLENT  
☒ GOOD  
☒ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED  
☐ RUINS  
☐ UNEXPOSED

**CHECK ONE**

☐ UNALTERED  
☒ ALTERED  
(asbestos shingle)

**CHECK ONE**

☒ ORIGINAL SITE  
☐ MOVED      DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

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The main house at Raincliffe Venture is a very large two-story "L" plan structure with classical details. The "L" is formed by main block (north) with gable roof, ridge parallel to the facade (entrance and north elevation) and a wing running south, with a gable roof intersecting the main roof, at the west. Inside the "L" (at rear) is a one-story porch, the western leg enclosed. At the east end of the main block is a small one-bay, two-story section, set back from the facade.

Centered on the five-bay facade is a wide one-bay colossal doric distyle portico with a frieze and cornice of jigsaw panels, brackets and modillions which continues around the entire house. The pediment contains a fanlight window and the gable roof behind intersects the main roof. The central bay of the facade is brought forward, with entrance on the first story of a single leaf door with side lights and blind fan, and paired 1/1 windows on the second story. Generally, other fenestration is 2/2. There are two pedimented, eared dormers with jigsaw panels on this elevation.

The west elevation contains three bays between three sided, two-story window bays at the north and south extremes. Dormers on this side are like those of the facade. The eastern section has a hipped dormer with a pair of 1/1 windows on the north, a shed dormer with similar windows at the south. Roofs are of slate. The house has been sided with asbestos shingle.

Significant outbuildings are: (1) a rectangular rubblestone smokehouse with shingle gable roof, clapboard gables at the southeast corner of the house; (2) a one-story board-and-batten shed with gable roof and scalloped bargeboards to the east of the smokehouse; (3) a one-story gable roof shed with german siding to the south of this with a shed roofed shelter on the south side; (4) a tenant house to the south of the main house, heavy timber frame, gable roof, three-bay facade with shed addition at rear, possibly an early 19th century house, definitely older than the rest of the buildings; (5) a small square plan pumphouse with low pyramidal roof, key pattern shingles and four-pane diamond windows. This is southwest of the house; (6) north of this a square spring house with low pyramidal roof and small arbor leading to the entrance.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

## SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The estate complex now known as Raincliffe is a rare survivor of the late 19th century conception of the grand house and grounds. The Victorian-Classical main house is a fine example of its type. The nearby tenant house was probably the original main house.

Recommendations

The present tenants are apparently incapable of and not interested in making repairs or maintaining the structures. The earliest opportunity should be taken to find a new tenant with such capability. The mansion house is just beginning to show serious signs of decay, but may be easily rescued. The outbuildings are sound and in no danger at present. The Dorsey house is in stable condition. The structures on the property are significant as a group, and DNR should make every effort to maintain them as such.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

John D. Hnedak, Historic Sites Survey Team Captain

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Maryland Historical Trust

1978-79

STREET &amp; NUMBER

TELEPHONE

21 State Circle

269-2438

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Annapolis

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
CORPS OF ENGINEERS

5662 IV NW  
FINKSBURG

2.5 MI.

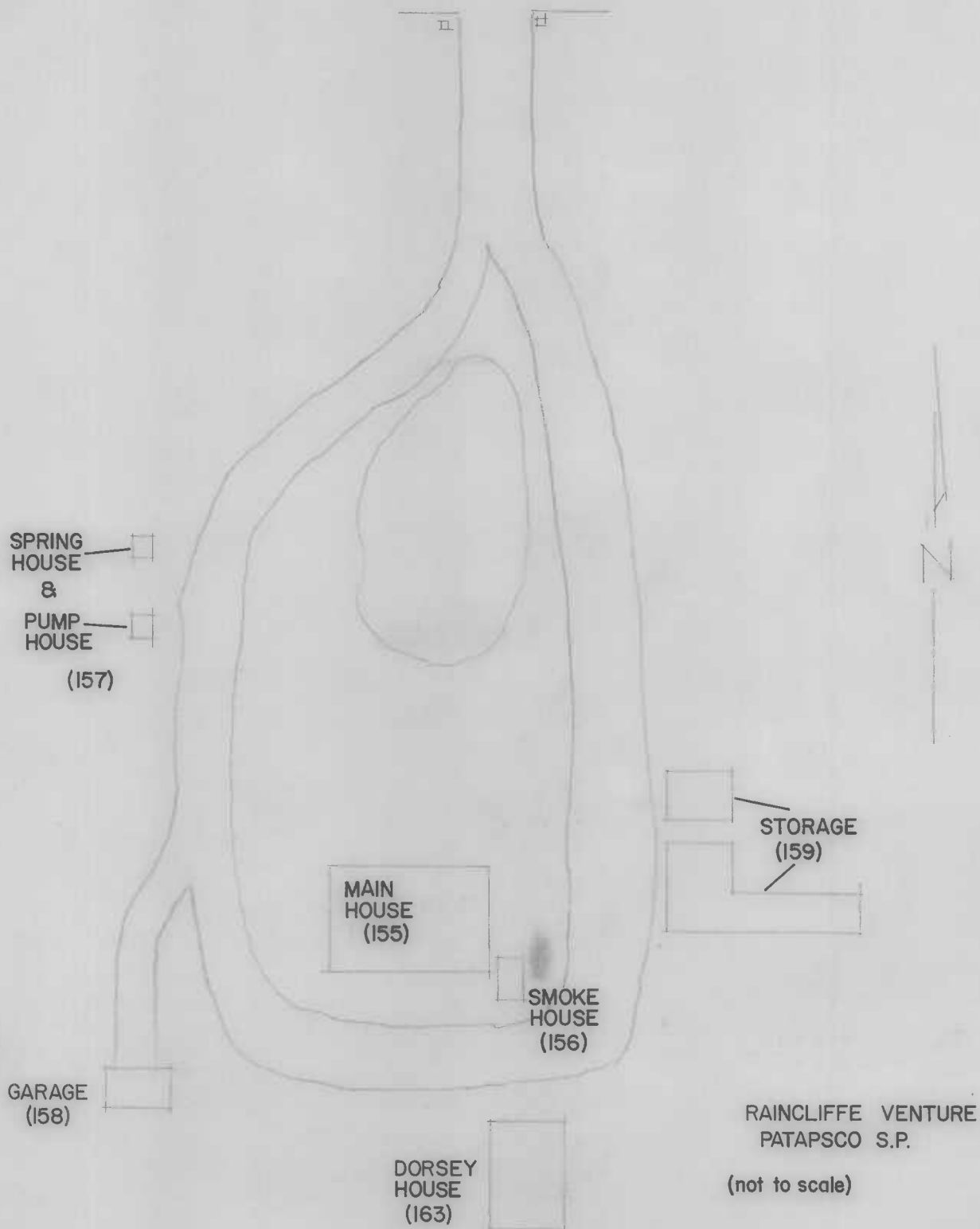
331

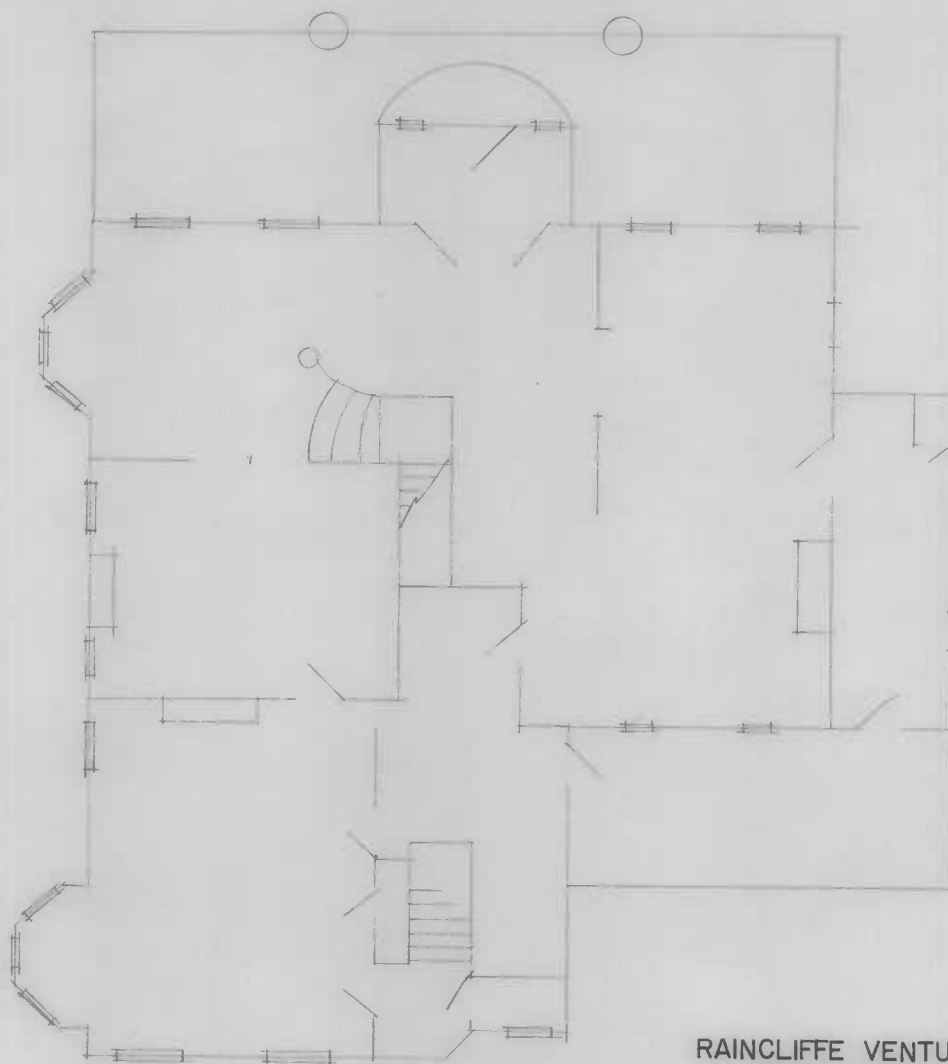
57°30'

132

134







RAINCLIFFE VENTURE  
MAIN HOUSE  
(I55)

FIRST FLOORPLAN  
SKETCH

NOT TO SCALE





CARR-237-PA-237



CARR-237



CARR-237

~~AN 237~~



CARR-237

~~AA-237~~





CMPR  
AA 257



~~1A~~ CHRR  
-237



CARR  
~~AA~~-237



CAK- 237 B

Pumphouse





CALL- 2370



Dorsey House

CAN-237E

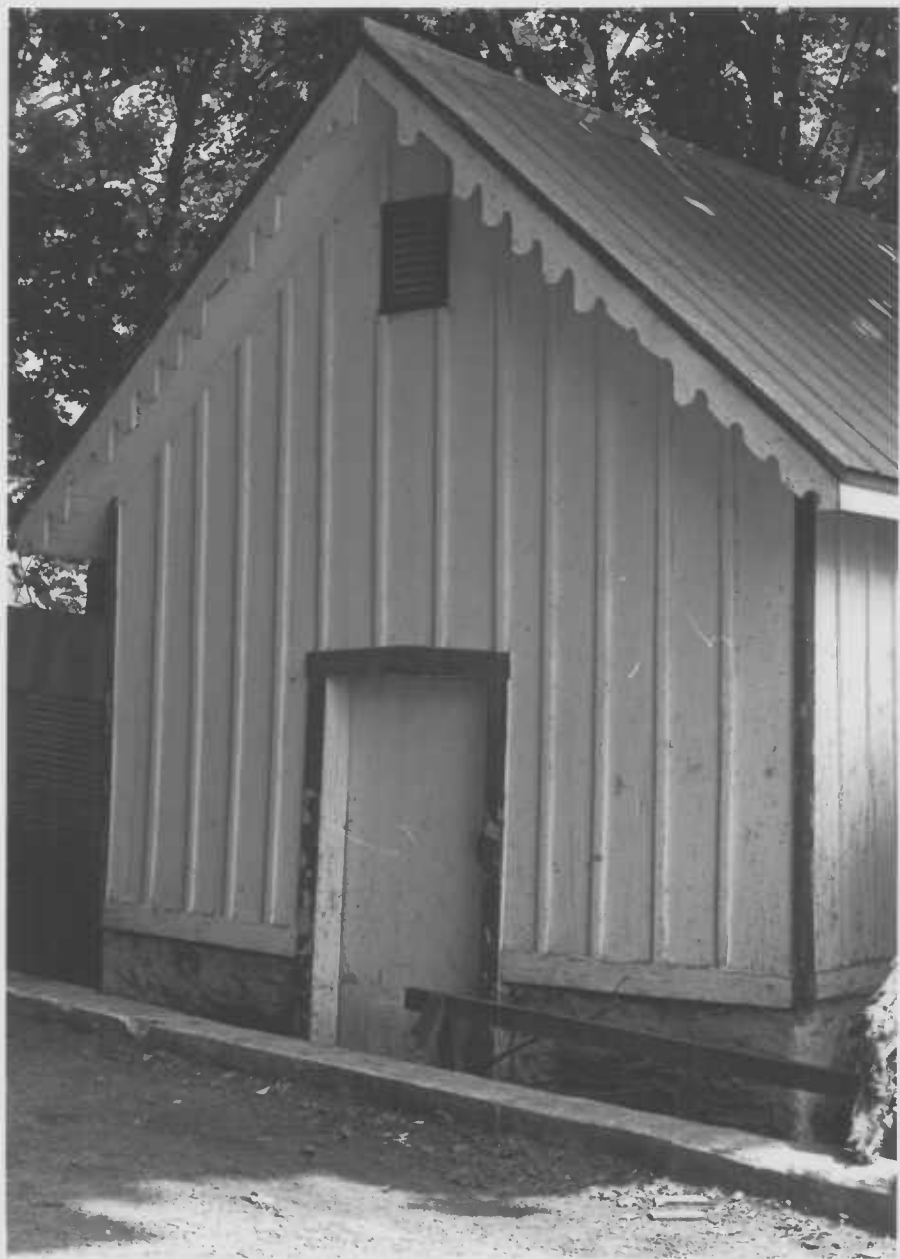


CARR-

AA-237



CARL-237D





CARR.  
~~AA~~-237D

Storage Bldg.